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A MISSIONARY OUTLOOK.

REV. J. K. MCCLURKIN, D. D.

IN answer to the request of the editors of the MAGAZINE for some missionary items gathered on my trip to the Orient, I send the following lines suggested by the gleanings of my note book.

While abroad I enjoyed the privilege of looking in upon a number of missions. As I recall them today, they seem like sentinels of God's great army, placed far apart in lonely lands and waiting, watching, working for the coming Lord.

The Methodists of America have entrenched themselves with marked wisdom in the very heart of the Eternal City. This mission in Rome is indeed fittingly called "The Methodist Fortress." In its schools are the six grand children of Garibaldi, one of them being in the membership of the Methodist church. When this promising work is viewed, in connection with the growing missions of the Waldensians, we can catch at least a fore gleam of the coming day of Italy's religious freedom.

From the rocky pulpit of Mars' Hill Paul first preached the gospel in Athens. Then the preacher was surrounded by the most beautiful temples which the genius of man has ever wrought. Now these temples lie in colossal ruins. But the gospel never dies, and the Athenians are hearing it preached in its purity by Dr. Kalopathakes and his faithful band of workers. The mission under this tried leader is a great power in Greece.

On the historic shores of the Bosphorus, looking over a scene of beauty which world travelers pronounce unrivaled, stands Robert College. When you look through its class-rooms, when the president shows you the photographs of its graduates, naming the state positions of prominence held by converted students in such lands as Servia and Bulgaria, you realize that here God has planted a fortress destined to shake the throne of the "false prophet."

A visit to our Presbyterian brethren in Beyrout, a survey of their magnificent mission plant, a glimpse of Dr. Post's clinic held in the midst of people suffering as I never before saw people suffer, a meeting with their medical men and women as in tents they make their itinerary of healing throughout the land in which Jesus wrought his miracles of mercy, all show the traveler that this mission has succeeded in opening up a great and effectual door to the hearts of the people of Palestine.

On the roll of our own ministry stands the name of Rev. John Crawford, D. D. We may count it an honor to have it there. For forty years he has stood in that centre of Mohammedan fury and bigotry, Damascus.

In the storm of persecution and massacre he has maintained his hold. Today he is the veteran and beloved leader of a successful mission under the Presbyterian church of Ireland.

But we turn with greater interest to the land of the Pharoahs, beautiful, wonderful historic Egypt—the land of Moses, of Joseph, of Jacob and Abraham; the land where the Prussian camped; where Alexander the Great and the Ptolemies ruled; where the Roman conquered; where the Saracen, the Mameluke and the Ottoman Turk in turn won their victories and reigned, and where the English today hold the reins of power; the land of the pyramids, the obelisks, the mummies and the monuments, all speaking to us out of the depths of an unmeasured past; the land of which the prophets spoke and their predictions are fulfilled before our eyes. Best of all, it is the land where our beloved missionaries have lifted up the banner in the name of Christ and in our own name.

After some difficulty we found Brother Finney and his faithful helpers in Alexandria. Our big dragoman, Ali, ingloriously failed in his efforts to discover our workers and, much to his chagrin, a little Scotch girl at last piloted him and us to our proper destination. No wonder the dragoman failed. Who would have thought that our church was laying her foundation work in the great city of Alexandria in such unpromising, out of the way quarters. But it was a delight to visit Brother Finney's two well drilled schools. We took their pictures; they waved us a polite goodbye, and we were driven to see a most commanding site, ground bought and paid for, owned by the United Presbyterian church. It lies there useless. Why? Because there are no buildings on it. As we were driven around this magnificent plot, which promises so much for the future, I felt that, humanly speaking, a building was the secret of our coming success in Alexandria. It is a cause of gratitude that recently the workers in a congregation, whose praise is in all the churches, have decided to crown that site with a mission building.

Three hours and a half on a fast train take us through a charming country that is not unlike a western prairie. We are set down in Cairo, the Paris of the East. This same evening our missionaries called to welcome us. What a delight it was to meet and to greet, away in the land of Ham, our brothers and sisters in Christ and in the work of Christ. It was a real joy to look upon their faces and upon the abounding fruit of their labors. A sight of the boys and girls in the chapel exercises, of the Theological students in their rooms, a prayer-meeting among the workers, the commanding site of the mission and the commodious buildings—all these gave us a deep impression of the strength and vitality of this base of supplies for the campaign in Egypt. At the prayer-meeting I noted the presence of seventeen American workers, five Theological students and an evangelist from Keswick, England. There was also present a recent convert from Mohammedanism. He had just been baptized, and the fury of the Mohammedans had been fierce against him. His place of business had been stormed. Battered and bruised, with torn clothes, he had taken refuge in our mission building, I was permitted to shake hands with him and would like now to send him my greetings. Such a convert shows that the gospel has lost no power and that the day of the faithful witness has not passed.

A day's ride by railroad through the heat and dust and flies brought us to the Athens of Egypt, or, I might say, to the New Jerusalem of the United Presbyterian church. It is Asyut. Our college at this place is one of the most inspiring sights seen in the East. Miss Hogg's work in training the girls, Dr. Henry's hospital, the literary societies which I visited, the declamations, essays and orations, the hundreds of students gathered in the chapel and coming from all over Egypt, their politeness and diligence, and the skillful leadership of Dr. Alexander, the president, cannot fail to impress even the passing tourist. It is not hard to see that in the work of winning Egypt for Christ, Asyut is an indispensable factor. If any United Presbyterian in

America is disheartened, if he thinks that God has forgotten our church and that she is failing to enlarge the place of her tents let him take a trip to Asyut. If any one is fearful lest the treasure we are sending across the seas is not being transmuted into uplifted lives and ransomed souls, let him take a trip to Asyut. To those who have the treasure of the King at command my one word is this, "Remember Asyut."

The Sabbath brought us to the stillness the deadness of ruined Luxor and Karnak. Temples, statues, gateways and monuments, colossal in size, symmetrical in proportions, chaste and beautiful even in desolation, tell the story of the failure of earthly ambition and the death of human greatness. But even here there is life as from the dead. You can see it in the Sabbath-school, where the children in their responses equal in promptness our American boys and girls. You can see it in the earnest members of the little church in Luxor, as they extend to you their greetings and join in their prayers and praises. You can see it when you enter a home like that of Theodore. Who is he? He is a man of wealth, a sheik, a United Presbyterian elder, a native gem polished by the hands of our earlier missionaries. A blessing is asked at his table. The customs of his home are Christian, different from the customs of other homes in Egypt. I felt when I bade him farewell that I would like to meet him in the Assembly of America. We will not see him here, but through grace we will meet him in the general assembly that convenes above. Our memory will not soon allow the picture to fade of the Sabbath spent with the living Christians in dead and ruined Luxor.

The American mission in the valley of the Nile is a crown of honor to the United Presbyterian church. Those who have noted most intelligently the progress of missions have given unsolicited testimony to the fact that, for effective service, the American mission of Egypt stands in the very vanguard of the missionary army of the world. The foundations of this mission, laid by such men as Hogg, Lansing, McCague, Barnett, Watson, Harvey and others, give clear evidence that these servants of God were wise master builders. But the band of younger workers in Egypt today show that the mantle of these worthy fathers has fallen upon consecrated lives. I do not write their names simply because I cannot mention all. The praises of these missionaries, men and women, are heard all along the valley of the Nile. Wonderful have been the showers of heaven upon the seed which they have sown. It seems to me that the last forty years have been the most marvelous in the history of Egypt, since the days of the wonder-working Moses.

Since the landing of our pioneer missionaries in the year 1854, the work has grown until we have a Theological seminary, a college, a synod resting upon four Presbyterial pillars, six thousand communicants, two hundred and fifty congregations and stations, fifty American workers, and four hundred native helpers. Last year the contributions from Egypt were fifty-eight thousand dollars.

Did United Presbyterians in America only realize the greatness of the trust committed to them, Egypt would have a warmer place in their hearts and a larger share in their gifts. Today the advance posts of our mission are planted at the gateway of the Soudan. Whether we have followed willingly or unwillingly, the fact is that now we stand looking through that gate upon the thirty millions, or rather the unnumbered millions, of the South. By the appointment of Providence, by the leadings of our King, we are face to face with this trust. We see the banner of England and Egypt floating there. Protection and civilization will be guaranteed. Shall we draw back with the treasure of the gospel? We have prayed and worked and given for Egypt; God has answered our prayers by doing as he usually does with his workers. He has expanded our field, widened our sphere of influence. He is adding to the ten millions of Egypt the millions of the South. Shall not then the war cry of our church be, "The Regions Beyond."

The crown of ancient Egypt was a double crown. The brightest crown in Egypt today

is still a double crown. It is worn jointly by our church in America and by our mission band along the Nile. As we stand today, through the strange leadings of God, before men and unmeasured responsibilities, we may hear the master saying, "Let no man take thy crown."

I sincerely believe that the present is a momentous period in the history of our church. If we are unfaithful to this call, upon other shoulders the mantle of God's power will fall. Other hands will drop the seed which our idle fingers refuse to cast.

Thankful for the past, faithful to the present, let us be trustful for the future.

Pittsburg, May 1899.

A THRILLING INCIDENT IN MISSIONARY LIFE.

REV. F. B. MEYER, B. A.

DURING my stay in Madras it was graciously ordered that Dr. and Mrs. Chamberlain, of the Dutch Reformed Church Mission at Arcot, were guests under the same hospitable roof of our friends, Mr. and Mrs. McConaughy. It was thus possible to have daily and intimate conversation with a veteran missionary, who has been on the field for forty years, and has been the means of building up a great network of missionary agency, with native assistants, mission schools, stations, and a hospital, in which he had treated tens of thousands of cases.

He is now engaged on a Bible dictionary. He had narrated some wonderful stories of his life in a book called, "In the Tiger Jungle" (Oliphant.) But he told me one story, which is to him more sacred and soul-moving than any of these, which he has never published, but which I feel should be rescued from oblivion; and I have his permission for transcribing it. May it help others, as it has done me!

I will let the Doctor tell his story in his own words, so far as I can remember them: In 1863 it was strongly impressed on me that I should carry the Gospel into the great independent heathen state of Hyderabad, which, so far as we could learn, had never heard the good news of the kingdom. I could not discover that there was any exception to the Lord's command that His Gospel should be preached in all the world, Certainly there was no such clause as "excepting Hyderabad." Several of my friends who knew the danger of the attempt, on account of the fanatical character of the people, attempted to dissuade me, asking me to desist, but as I had examined my heart before God, He still said that I was the man; and my wife cordially gave her consent for the Gospel's sake.

I told my native assistants what was on my heart, and explained to them the extreme danger of the expedition. Immediately more volunteered to accompany me than I could possibly take, but I chose four, on whom I knew I could rely. It transpired subsequently that, on the night before we started, these devoted men met, and solemnly bound themselves by a covenant that the survivor, if there should be one, should do his best to secure a provision for the wives and children of the rest.

Another missionary, who had promised to accompany me, went only a short distance along the road, and then, becoming fearful, went back, leaving me to prosecute the journey by myself.

The American Bible Society, which had long desired that this journey should be undertaken, into a district to which the Gospel had never penetrated, gave me a large grant of books, and placed more money at my disposal than I subsequently required.

On the frontier the English president, being informed of my intention, did his best to dissuade me from proceeding, saying that it was impossible to protect me, and that in the event of my death serious complications between the British government and the Nizam of Hyderabad must ensue. In fact, he threatened to arrest me as a dangerous person if I persisted. But, produc-

ing my American passport, I challenged his right to detain me and said that I should complain to the secretary for Foreign Affairs at St. James, unless he allowed me to proceed. At that he said no more.

We then entered the country and passed through it on horseback unmolested, pitching our camp day after day in the neighborhood of fresh towns and villages, to which we fully preached the Gospel, and sold large quantities of Gospels. Some four months in all were spent in this way.

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In the course of our journey we came to the city of Shamshabad. This place had a notoriety in the district for wickedness and lawless crime, and the peril of entering it with the Gospel had been frequently presented to us. Still I felt that I had no alternative than to obey the Divine impression on my soul.

The day previous to our making the attempt was the Lord's Day, on which according to our wont, my assistants and I partook of the Lord's Supper together, deriving special comfort and strength in the observance.

In the morning we traveled onwards, preaching in some five or six villages on our way, reached the city about nine, and encamped to allow the heat of the day to pass. At three my assistants suggested that they should enter the city, and begin to show and sell their Gospels, and that I should follow in about an hour. They did so, and when, after an interval, I went up to the gate, I saw them coming towards me, driven by an excited mob. It appeared that the religious leaders of the place had combined to raise a tumult against them; the Brahmins saying that the smooth binding of some of the books had been obtained from the skin of the sacred cow, whilst the Mohammedans insisted that the rough binding of the others had been obtained from the skin of a pig; and thus that the whole was a subtle device to break their caste and de file them.

I faced them good-humoredly, and by the use of a few pleasantries endeavored to obtain a hearing. But no; they would not hear of such a thing. I must leave the city at once. I still persisted, however, saying that I had come with a message for them from the Great King; asked them to let me give it, and explain the reason for my coming, after which I would quietly leave. But no, they would not have it, and were becoming more and more violent.

By this time we had reached a large open market, and had been edged towards some stone steps that led up to a kind of raised platform. This was ascended, and confronted before us a sea of angry faces. I could see, also, that many of the more fanatical were taking up the paving-stones from the street, with the evident intention of hurling them at us when the expected signal was given.

During the whole of this altercation my mind was kept in perfect peace; I had no thought for my personal safety; my one desire was to deliver my message. I was conscious only of an overmastering longing that everyone before me should hear for once at least the Gospel of Christ, whatever might be the result to myself. In the Tamil tongue, which the mob could not understand, I bade my assistants to stand with their backs to the wall, so that the people should not be able to strike us from the rear, and I stood forward on the edge of the steps. If ever I was conscious of the wisdom given by the Holy Spirit, it was at that hour. Indeed, it was not I that spoke, but the Spirit of the Father who spoke for me. Nothing else can account for the way in which I was guided to act and speak on that memorable day.

In the meanwhile the tide of angry feeling continued to rise against us, and word was given that the city gates should be shut. There should be no interference with the fate which was to be meted out to us. Help could come from God alone.

I had noticed among the crowd a few men who evidently did not sympathize with the murderous purpose of the rest. They stood somewhat in the rear, but I signalled them out, saying: There are some of you who really want to hear what I have to say, you in the red turban, you in the white turban,

and you, and you, and you. Is that not true, my brothers? They motioned an assent. Then, said I, let these five come to the front, and I will answer their inquiry, and explain my errand; and after that we will give ourselves up to be stoned, if you still think fit.

So these five came to the front; they were Brahmins, and five is their sacred number. Thereupon, I chanted, after their method, in Sanscrit, the sacred versicle, which each Brahmin recites for his evening prayer, of which the following is the interpretation:

"I am a sinner; my soul is sinful; everything that pertains to me is sin. O God, the Refuge of those that seek Thee, do Thou deliver me from my sin."

When they detected that I was familiar with their holy tongue, I could see that they regarded me with growing respect.

Brothers, I said, in a somewhat low voice, so that those around me had to strain their ears, do you know how that prayer can be answered, and how the great God can deliver us from the burden of sin? They motioned that they did not know.

Then raising my voice somewhat in the Telugu tongue, which they all understood, I said, As your favorite poet, Vemana, has said, If the Mohammedan goes to the sacred shrine of Tirupati, does he thereby become a devout Hindu? If the dog bathes in the holy Godavery, does he thereby become a lion? So the soul is not changed by outward observances.

It is true, my brothers, I cried; our washings and sacrifices can never take away our sins; but the great God of heaven has devised a remedy.

Then I briefly touched on the fall of Adam and the sin of man, on the universal failure to wash away the past, and finally told of the birth of Jesus in the country midway between their land and the land of the English, I spoke of His unselfishness and tenderness; His deeds of mercy and power, until I came to the story of Calvary. Never before or since have I had such a vivid realization of that scene, or spoken of it, as I did then. It seemed as though I had a new sense of His meekness, gentle patience, and uncomplaining resignation before His foes. And as I continued to speak I could see the men dropping their stones one by one, whilst tears made their way down the cheeks of many who had been foremost to take my life.

The story of the Resurrection followed, of the infallible proofs, of the soldiers, who were put to keep the grave being the heralds of the Risen One, as they burst into the city with the news, and finally of the Ascension in the presence of five hundred witnesses; whereat they all lifted up their faces towards the true heaven as though to behold Him.

For nearly half an hour the people listened; the mob had become a congregation; and when, at the close, I said: Now, my brothers, I have done what I asked your permission to do; you can stone us if you wish, they all cried out, "No, no; we would not have thought of stoning you if we had only known who had sent you."

For another forty-five minutes I answered many questions, and finally offered for sale "The Life of the Divine Redeemer," as the Gospels are called. They eagerly bought up all my stock of Luke and John, and then appointed their leading men to accompany us to our tent, apologizing for the way they had received us, and excusing themselves. But I knew that the Lord Jesus had stood by and strengthened me, and had preserved us according to His gracious promise.—The Life of Faith.

OUR AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

HOW TO AWAKEN A DEEPER INTEREST AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE WORK OF MISSIONS.

Read by MRS. ORR before the Keokuk Presbyterial Society, and published by request.

THE object and aim of a missionary society is to send the Christ-light to those who have it not by means of our time, our money, ourselves, and our prayers; in short, by means of every gift which God has given us. Our Heavenly Father made

no mistakes in bestowing these gifts. Each one is rightly and purposely placed, together with his accompanying responsibility.

Were each one to contribute cheerfully, whole-heartedly, and enthusiastically of the very best which God has given, then there were no need to ask the question which forms the basis of this paper. Indeed, the fact that the question has been asked indicates an awakening determination to bring to this work no second-rate interest or effort.

This big round world has no grander cause than that of missions. This is the missionary age, and you are behind the times if you have not caught the spirit. There is little danger of exaggerating the grandness of our opportunity, the greatness of our responsibility, or the peril of unfaithfulness, neglect, or even delay.

Perhaps a few who are with us today remember the old-fashioned missionary meeting, the little group of consecrated, faithful women who met from month to month in the great, bare, empty church, and kept alive from year to year the feeble flame of missionary interest. All honor to their memory! Far be it from me to disparage the efforts of those good mothers, but rather, by comparing the missionary meeting of that day with the possibilitie s of the present, to try to realize how highly we are favored.

With missionary literature of every description to be had for the asking; with books, magazines, and even newspaper contributing to our use; with scores of bright capable women in our churches; with the example and influence of other wide-awake societies all about us, should it not be an easy matter to make the work of missions so interesting that every woman in the church would take an active part therein?

Just here, let us consider for a moment the real, substantial helpfulness of such meetings. We are gathered together with one accord. It is, or ought to be, a very friendly place. There is no such courtesy as Christian courtesy; it is genuine and sincere. There we can be sure to meet Jesus socially. His friendship and His companionship we look forward to as the crowning of our enjoyment in heaven when we shall see Him face to face. Should we not desire to be on intimate terms with Him here? Oh, if we could only remember the blessed Presence that is with the "two or three" met in His name, what happy, fruitful places our meetings would become!

How is it—are you taking your society to God in prayer? Are you telling Him just what is the trouble? Are you asking Him for just what you want? The promises have been tried and not found wanting. It has been proven in many ways that "prayer moves the arm that moves the world."

Good missionary meetings are not things of accident. They must be planned for, they must be prayed for, they must be diligently worked for. Study variety and do not be afraid to try new methods. Variety is the "spice of life," but when it comes to the matter of missionary meetings it is sometimes life itself. A society often dies, or at best leads a languishing existence, because the meetings get into a rut and are not interesting. If each member would only dedicate her energy to God and bring this consecrated energy to the meetings, praying and expecting the Holy Spirit to work in and through her, then, so sure as God, lives the work will prosper and the meetings will become truly interesting and profitable.

You are given musical talent; have you devoted it to Christ's work? You are endowed with a clear mind for business; have you ever used it in Christ's work? Your fluent tongue and convincing manner have put through successfully many a social affair; were they given you for every use except Christ's distinct call? You think perhaps that some other woman has done your work. No; your work has gone undone. No one, not even an angel, could do it for you. But I hear some one say, "I have not time, I am a very busy woman." Yes, but it is the busy women only who do this work. Our Heavenly Father did not say, "Go rest today in my vineyard," but "Go work today in my vineyard." "The

work today, the rest tomorrow." Everything comes by some one's toil. Success will come by yours. Begin, continue. Be of good cheer. Touch every spring. "Be instant in season and out of season." Think, talk, work, pray. We have the whole summed up in eight words—

"Prayerful preparation,
Personal persuasion,
Pleasing programs,
Patient perseverance."

A BIRD LESSON.

MINNIE MAY CURTIS, Raleigh, N. C.

IT was at the time just between daylight and darkness, when hearts draw near and it seems easier to speak of the things of the spirit and the deeper experiences of life, that I communed with a friend whom I had been studying with increasing interest and delight during several days of closest companionship.

She sat near a window where the last rays of light softly touched her prematurely snowy hair and strong face with its look of indescribable sweetness and serenity. "How lovely she must have been as a girl!" I thought, and then—"She is far lovelier now than she could have been in early youth."

No one could look upon that face without realizing that its beauty and peace came from the inward illumination of a spirit that had suffered deeply, and grown strong and lovely through sharp discipline and trial. There were lines that showed the marks of pain's chisel, but over all there was, as it were, an impalpable veil of sweetness and grace, that at times fairly glorified it.

As I thought of her intellectual gifts, her exceptional charm of manner, her loving, kindly spirit that always saw the best of everything and everybody, the many qualities of mind and heart that won appreciation and admiration from all with whom she came in contact, realizing as I did, that even in middle life she was a woman who might easily move, a queen, in highest circles, where her claims to recognition and homage would be instantly felt, a feeling of wonder and rebellion came over me at thought of her being buried, apparently, in this little country settlement shut in by mountains, where there could be but few congenial people near her, where life seemed so full of sordid drudgery. How could she bear it? Why should she, with means that would unlock doors into larger, fairer rooms?

For a moment even the beautiful mountains that rose so near her home, just across the meadows, and had been such a delight to my unaccustomed eyes, seemed too near and oppressive, seemed to shut out so much of the world of culture and intelligence where I felt my friend should be shining.

Still more rebellious thoughts came. Why should so sweet and lovely a character have been so sorely afflicted and bereft? Why should so ideal a wife and mother have had her all snatched from her so untimely?

I knew what a furnace of sorrow she had passed through, of bereavement and a long period of intense physical suffering and weakness. Only for six months had she known the joy of motherhood, and then the beautiful baby boy was laid away in the little cemetery beyond the mountain, and then only a few more years of the companionship of one with whom she had shared an ideal wedded life, and he was laid beside the little one, and she was left alone in the prime of womanhood.

As I looked at the pictured face, so strong and gentle and true, and thought of all I had heard of his noble spirit, his wide charities, of their beautiful home-life that had reached out to bless others, of all the rich, gracious ministries they had shared

together, I could not but question why such a home should be broken up, why such a man should be taken, and miserable wretches left to curse the world; why a circle of relatives who had found in him such comfort and support should be derived of it.

But with these thoughts came others. I had been in that little community long enough to see what a power for good this gracious, cultivated woman was; what helpful, refining influences she unconsciously brought to bear upon others who looked up to her with tender reverence and warmest trust because she entered with such large, loving interest into their hard, narrow lives. Her very face and manner seemed to say to all, "I love you; I am interested in you; what can I do to help you?"

Her lovely home with all its art treasures and dainty belongings was so sweetly shared with others, her church relations were beautiful and helpful, and she identified herself closely with all the interests of the little place. I believe that even her pretty gowns and bonnets, simple yet in such perfect taste, were a means of grace in that community.

Her exquisitely kept grounds were a delight and inspiration to the eyes of strangers passing by, as well as to her neighbors, while the main purpose for which she cultivated the choicest flowers and a large variety of fruits was that she might share them with the sick, far and near, and those to whom they were luxuries. And who can estimate the benefits that were derived from a visit in that quiet, beautiful home by weary souls to whom she gave such perfect hospitality?

During the summer just drawing to a close, a worn minister greatly in need of a vacation, the widow of a former pastor, now employed as a house-keeper—a sorrowful and over-burdened woman to whom such a change and rest seemed like a bit of Paradise—not to mention nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends, had been warmly welcomed and most delightfully entertained, going away uplifted and strengthened by the sojourn under her roof where, in those many windowed "chambers of peace," looking out upon the everlasting hills, they have been lulled to sleep by the soft ripple of the tiny river which skirted the lawn.

I knew that this sweet, unselfish caring for others had brought even more happiness to her than to those who had gained so much from it during those long summer days; and I knew, too, what comfort she took in her charities, so quietly bestowed that few knew of them. I thought of the kindly presence that cheered the sick and weary-hearted, the deep motherly interest in all children and young people because of one "small, low-laid head," of the bright spirit that rose above severe bodily pain and loneliness and sorrow, and of her sweet, brave laughter—is there anything sweeter and braver than the laughter of a woman who has suffered deeply, and won the victory over self? She was not merely a serenely-smiling saint, she was a bright, laughing one, and that rippling, hearty outpouring of her cheery spirit was contagious and uplifting to many a downcast grieving soul.

Ah, it was not a narrow, shut in, cramped life she was leading after all! She was living largely, nobly, beautifully, giving the very best of herself and her home to others, instead of selfishly nursing her grief and loneliness.

And the secret of it! While I pondered, the answer came to my unspoken thought. We had been speaking in a general way of trial and discipline, and the mystery of bereavement, and seemingly inexplicable experiences of life, and now her sweet voice came to me again through the purpling twilight that was blending the mountain outlines with the autumn sky, and making the room dim. She said:

"Ever since a little incident occurred several years ago I have been better able to bear trials that are impossible to understand, and to trust the dear Father's infinite wisdom and tenderness in the working of his plans for us. I had a beautiful white rosebush growing here under my

window, that I had brought as a slip from my home when I left on my wedding day. It grew into a large, shapely tree, covered year after year with lovely roses, and I prized it greatly for its associations, especially after my dear husband left me.

"Early one spring I was cheered in my sorrow and loneliness by the sight of two dear little birds who were constantly coming to this rosebush. They were the dearest little birds, not sparrows; I did not know their name, but they were a kind that had always appealed strongly to me because they were so dainty and bright and cheering in their ways, and to my surprise and delight I found they were actually planning to build a nest in this bush close to the window where I sat so much of the time with my books and sewing.

"For a day or two I watched with increasing pleasure and interest their comings and goings and anxious discussions over arrangements as they brought twigs and bits of hay and began the construction of their tiny home, and I thanked the dear Father for sending them to cheer me, and looked forward with intense pleasure to the thought of how sweet it would be to watch them day by day, and to see the baby birds grow aud thrive. Just then, a neighbor's little boy came dashing around the corner, bringing my mail, and, seeing the birds fly out of the bush at his approach, parted the branches and investigated the foundation of the nest with great interest. It came to me in a flash how dangerous it was for the tiny householders to locate in such a place. I thought of the neighbors' cats always prowling about, to whom the wee nurslings would fall an easy prey, and of all the distress and trouble the parents might experience if I permitted them to build so near the ground.

"And yet it did not seem as if I could deprive myself of the pleasure of having them so near me, and it seemed such a hard cruel thing to break up that dear little home, and cause so much grief. But the more I thought of it, the more clearly I realized that it would be the truest kindness, best for them in the long run; and so, with tears of disappointment for myself as well as for them, I tore out the twigs and bits of hay and threw them far away.

"Then I had the pain of seeing wonder and distress that seemed almost human, as the little birds mourned and questioned, and flew to and fro in bewilderment and uncertainty for three days. And then they went bravely to work to rebuild in the very same spot, and were soon as happy and interested as before.

"I cried hard when I broke up the nest the second time, and saw their grief was more evident than before. I thought, 'O you dear little birdies, if you only could understand! If I could explain to you that I am doing it for your highest good, your safety and comfort, and am saving you from far greater trouble than you have now!' It seemed so hard to hurt them so, and not be able to make them understand why I did it. But to my great joy, after a few days of mourning and indecision, they built a nest in the grape-vine over the door, in a good, safe place out of reach of cats and thoughtless boys, and all summer long their sweet twitterings and comings and goings, as they raised their little brood in peace and comfort, delighted my heart.

"And the thought came to me that I had represented the Father to these tiny creatures, had been the kind Providence that had prevented them from making a mistake that probably would have cost the lives of their little ones and themselves, had been led to exercise my higher wisdom in their behalf, though it meant the breaking up of their home, the thwarting of their cherished plans. I did it because I could see to the end, could see what was before them, and knew it was kind and right to seemingly hurt them for a time.

"Then I thought of the broken homes, the thwarted plans, the inexplicable trials that come to God's children, the deep mysteries which they cannot understand, the things that sometimes seem so cruel and unnecessary, and this little lesson from the birds made me feel as never before that our Father does not afflict willingly, or grieve the child-of men. He sees the end of all events, all

sorrows and trials, as we cannot, and knows what is needed for our highest development, sees in his infinite wisdom what is best for each of us under all circumstances, and sometime we, too, shall know and understand and be wholly satisfied."

The clear, sweet tones ceased. It had grown quite dark and I could no longer see the face outlined against the shadowy mountain, but I knew that it was shining with the light of peace and trust. I felt that what I had heard was a most beautiful illustration of the words that had kept time to all my thoughts and lightened many a heavy load since another friend had bequeathed them to me with the thought that they were a magic key to unlock life's dark enigmas, that if we truly believed, and rested in the comfort of them, they would make all of life easier and happier far us:

"God never does, nor suffers to be done
Aught but thyself wouldst do, couldst thou foresee
The end of all events as well as He."—*The Advance.*

Gleaned for Missionary Societies.

MRS. MARY CLOKEY PORTER.

In 1886 fourteen married lady missionaries were supported in Egypt and India by our Women's General Missionary Society. In 1899, thirty-six.

**

$3,283.81 more expended in foreign work the past year than was paid into the treasury for that department.

**

A decrease of over $1200 in contributions from missionary societies for foreign work in one year, means little new work for the coming year, and if decrease continue, means *debt* and *retrenchment for the future.*

**

At least $27,000 is required to carry on the work already undertaken for the year in the two foreign fields.

**

Only one new missionary granted, Miss Rena Hogg for Egypt which calls for $650.00 more to be paid into the foreign treasury. (*Who will help pay Miss Hogg's salary?*)

**

A hospital for women and girls is greatly needed for Drs. Lawrence and Watson in Tanta, Egypt. Name of hospital, "The Martha J. McKown Memorial Hospital." *At least $10,000 needed.*

**

New Junior work for 1899—the endowment of child's bed in this Memorial hospital, to cost $600.

**

Patients treated the past year in dispensaries at Jhelum and Bhera India, 24,479.

**

Retrenchment in one girls' school in India mission field meant *thirteen little girls sent back weeping to their heathen homes.* (*Whose fault? All who fail to pay tithes and offerings.*)

**

The need of a new medical missionary in India is urgent.

**

The new work among the Piute Indians near Warm Springs, Oregon, is most promising. Their respect for their chapel and the missionaries, and their profound reverence for the Scriptures, is most marked.

**

The Warm Springs Indians are pagan idolators, which makes it more difficult to introduce any other religion among them.

**

At Simnasho the success in gospel teaching is chiefly among the children, although "several aged people regularly make their way to church afoot over five to eight miles of the worst roads and often in the worst weather."

City missionaries enter open doors everywhere. They visit the needy, the sick, the sorrowing, the down-trodden. They distribute clothing and good literature. They superintend Sabbath schools, "home departments," Junior societies, sewing schools, etc.

**

Seven city missionaries report having made 8,413 visits the past year. Four of these mission congregations gave $153.65, in Thank-offerings.

**

The Industrial departments among the Freedmen have been more nearly self supporting than any year previous.

**

Two hundred and ninety-one acres of the Industrial farm at Prairie, Alabama, are under good cultivation.

**

Fourteen Industrial teachers are supported by the Women's General Missionary Society among the Freedmen.

**

The missionary societies at four stations among the Freedmen contributed $82.01 thank-offering.

**

The year's report of Church Extension and Parsonage work is most encouraging.

**

Thirty-six congregations have received grant of loans from the Church Extension and Parsonage fund within the past eleven years. These are located in eleven states and twenty-four presbyteries.

**

Contributions from Junior societies for Junior Parsonage, $489.57.

**

Forty-four presbyterials have elected Junior secretaries.

**

Number of members in Young Ladies Societies Junior Missionary and Little Light Bearers, 5,639.

**

The subscription list for the Junior's Missionary Magazine in four months has reached 5,116.

The Juniors contributed $880 to the year's Thank-offering fund.

**

Seven pupils attended the Bible Training School, last year at Xenia O. One finished the entire three years' course of study.

**

The new type now in use on the Women's Missionary Magazine increases its capacity by six full pages to each number.

**

The names of 150 original writers appeared in last year's Magazine.

**

The Literature department of work is becoming more thoroughly organized each year.

**

Sale of leaflets the past year, 14,499. Distributed free, 2,417. Copies "Prosperous Work," (free), 512.

**

Report of Thank-offering secretary shows: Responsive Scripture Services (sold), 18,181, (free), 1,309; Thank-offering envelopes (free,) 31,500; "Open Letters," with envelopes, 32,450; Junior Letters (with boxes), 2,200; Senior and Junior boxes, (free), 8,067: copies of leaflets, histories, prize essays (free), 5,522.

**

Amount of Thank-offering to date, May 13, $23,564.58.

**

Forty-three presbyterials increased their Thank-offerings over last year, while fifteen gave less and five reported no offering.

**

One society in Egypt contributed $17.37. Through the faithful efforts of Miss Susie A. Young, Thank-offering secretary of India, the societies there contributed a Thank-offering of 288 rupees (about $92) for the Freedmen's work in America.

**

The largest amount of contributions from women's missionary societies for the year was spent in their own congregations. (*Should this be?*

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

MAGHAGHA, EGYPT, April 12, 189 .

DEAR FRIENDS:—Let me tell you a little about one of the best friends of our mission in Egypt, Elder Bishara Nakhla, of Kûs. Many years ago, when his acquaintance with the missionaries was quite limited, he came to the conclusion, chiefly, if not wholly, from his own study of the Word, that he should give a tenth of his income to the Lord's service. Several years later he said he had been prospered in so doing, and, so far as I know he continues the practice.

He is also given to hospitality. When the presbytery of Egypt met in his town he was its principal entertainer. Probably no one but himself ever knew what it cost, but it was certainly several hundred dollars. In the autumn of 1895, shortly after the martyrdom of the late pastor of Kûs, the Rev. Girjis Anshalian, I spent forty days in that town and ministered to the vacant congregation as well as my Arabic would permit after eighteen years of disuse. My home for that time was in the house of Elder Bishara, and so far was he from expecting any compensation that he was rather offended when he heard of my seeking to purchase some supplies for a trip across the eastern desert to Koseir. He gave me a most bountiful supply of provisions, and said before parting that he wanted to give me "two piasters" (ten cents,) a colloquial expression for a small present, but what he gave was really a liberal donation.

Some thing over two years ago we had, for the first time in years, an opportunity to purchase a much needed lot in Maghagha, and the opportunity was not likely to occur soon again. With no cash in the treasury for such a use, it became necessary to collect the money, $420, from other sources. Before the sum could be collected the time for payment arrived and Elder Bishara lent us substantial aid.

Not long ago some members of his family needed the services of an oculist. For that purpose and for a change of air they spent two months under the care of Dr. Carrol Lansing in Helwan, the desert suburb of Cairo. He remained in the upper country till shortly before they left, occupied with business; then went and spent a few days in Cairo and Helwan. With a kodak my daughter, Mrs. Lansing, took some pictures of the several members of the family, I send copies of the photographs of the Elder and his wife. Possibly you may think worth while to reproduce one of them for your readers.

DAVID STRANG.

FOREIGN NEWS BUDGET.

Egypt.

Mrs. Wm. Harvey gives notes from Cairo:

There have been a good many cases of typhoid fever in Cairo the past few weeks, among them several tourists. Princess Bamba, eldest daughter of the late Prince Dhuleep Singh, has been and is still quite ill at one of the hotels near Cairo. Many will remember her father as the India Prince who married one of our school girls, and who gave the mission from time to time several thousands of pounds. Oh! that the Lord would raise up one like him in this our time of need.

Miss A. Y. Thompson tells of the effect of tithe education:

There has been a good deal of teaching about the tithe in our Egyptian church, and there are many who try to give conscientiously. There was a case of such giving lately which seems worthy of being recorded. The person is not a member of our church, but has lately been an attendant and is a relative of one of the deacons. One Sabbath I was shown the subscription paper he had written, and the next day the deacon was able to tell me that his friend had had an advance of twenty-five dollars on his salary per month. So that is encouraging.

Recently the Kubeisi school was honored by a visit from two English ladies, friends of the founder of the school. True to her convictions, my widow assistant said to me, "Please tell them to try to have the government offices closed on Sabbath instead of Friday." When this was translated to them, I was told to say that the subject is under serious consideration now, and that some of the English people were very much troubled by the news that the foundation stone of the Episcopal church in Assouan was laid last month on the Sabbath. No one can likely say that this was done for fear the Moslem fanaticism would be aroused. It seems to me to indicate rather that where the regular work of the week is done on the Sabbath it becomes like any other day of the week, even in the minds of those who were taught to observe it. May God hasten the time when His holy day will be sanctified.

Mrs. Bertha G. Reed, of Asyut, writes :

The site for ths hospital at this station has been secured at last, and considering how difficult the purchase of land is in this country, the mission has been very fortunate in securing such a desirable piece of ground. We trust that very soon a comfortable and commodious building may be placed upon it. There is not a dollar in the treasury to begin with, but we have faith to believe that God will open the hearts of many of his people to give to this noble cause.

Dr. Henry and his family will soon be setting out on their journey to the home land, and these last days are very busy ones to them. Little Virgil has been quite ill with pneumonia, and for a time it was feared that they would be delayed by his illness; but he is improving rapidly now and they are hoping to leave as they have planned.

Mrs. Hogg, who has been spending the winter here, expects to go with them as far as England. We are all very sorry to let her go. The winter has been such a pleasant one for her, and the native friends will miss her very much. A great deal of her time has been spent among them. They have shown their love and respect for her in many ways. I am sure that all the good that has been accomplished by this winter's visit will never be known until "the books are opened."

We regret that no news items have been received from India. A letter, however, from from one of the two missionary ladies on their way home by the Pacific route told of their safe arrival at Vancouver. The first of their journey was over smooth seas, the latter somewhat rough from tossing waves. Miss Logan writes of Penang and Singapore onthe coast of China, where a brief halt was made.

Both are such pretty places. I always think of them as cities of perpetual summer as the temperature varies but few degrees the year round. Though very near the equator the heat is never oppressive in summer as in the Punjab of India. Four days were spent in Hong Kong waiting for the ship Empress of India. The harbor seen at night as one comes in from the sea is very fine. The city is built on a mountain side and lighted with electricity and its lighting, together with the light of the many ships which are always in the harbor, make wonderfully pretty scene at night. Two of our "Men of War" were there. It was inspiring to see our flag once more. Lieutenant Hobson was at Hong Kong while we were there, but we did not see him ; yet we did see some of our sailor lads in the streets, many of them were mere boys, and some of them were in such condition as to make us heart sick. In Hong Kong, as in most seaport towns, the drinking places come down to the very water's edge, and poor Jack hardly more than sets his feet on dry land than he finds himself surrounded by temptations that are too much for him.

The young ladies by this time are with friends, and we trust a few months of rest in the home land will give them strength and vigor for many years of work in far away India.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT.

The Year's Work.

Our young people will all be glad to hear of the year's work of the Junior Missionary Society. We give this extract from Mrs. N. Wylie Stevenson's report:

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Special Work	$ 489.57
Foreign Missions	903.00
Home Missions	512.00
Freedmen	258.00
Church Extension and Parsonage	78.80
Ministerial Relief	19.10
Contingent Fund	35.85
Orphans' Home	79.14
Congregational	472.75
Memorial Hospital	57.00
Aged People's Home	8.10
Miscellaneous	289.56
Thank-offering	880.00
Total	$4083.04

It is with feelings of joy and gratitude that we report to you the publication of our Junior's Missionary Magazine. The first nnmber was sent forth four months ago, and in that time, our subscription list has exceeded our most sanguine expectations. having reached 5,116. Chief among the reasons for encouragement given, is the inter-

est the Juniors take in their magazine.

The Board recommends as the special work for the Juniors the coming year the endowment of a child's bed in the proposed new hospital for women and children at Tanta, Egypt. Dr. Anna B. Watson and Dr. Caroline C. Lawrence are, at present, placed over this district.

So much interest was manifested two years ago in the child's bed in Jhelum Hospital, India, that we feel sure every Junior will be equally interested in the above named hospital. $600 is asked for this purpose.

The contributions for this special work are to be over and above all definite or pledged work. By no means should you give all the contributions for the year to this one object. Teach the Juniors to give to every department of work under the care of the Board.

DEAR CHILDREN:—May this year's work be better than the last, better than any year that has preceded it. Read more, think more, give more and pray more for the cause of missions. Particularly study the life of children in Egypt and the work of medical missions, as that is your special work this year.

Child Training.

This is eminently an age of child training. In children's organizations are the Junior Christian Endeavor, Junior Epworth League, Junior Missionary Society; in temperance work, The Ladies Temperance League and Band of Hope; in humane work, The Band of Mercy, Anti-Cigarette League, and many other organizations, all showing the most helpful sign, and appreciation of the old maxims, "The children of today are the men and women of tomorrow," "The child is father to the man," and the old proverb of the inspired writer, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Whatever is for the advancement of the child in spiritual life is for the advancement of the church, All things that instruct the child in mission work and create an interest and love of this work for Christ's sake strengthens the child.

The devotional exercises are means of spiritual growth. The little ones are taught to pray in these meetings, to love to pray, to have great faith in prayer, and to pray in public. At first it is only by repeating a text or some simple petition, but the habit is formed and soon it is easy for them to talk with God in the presence of the other members of the society. Most of us older women shrink from leading in prayer in public; the next generation will be spared much of this by their early practice. As the spirit and love of prayer is cultivated, the child draws nearer to Christ and grows more and more in His image.

The child is made stronger by the study of God's word—committing texts, Psalms, and other portions of the Bible, repeating them in concert over and over until they are firmly fixed in his mind. Ruskin attaches much importance in the formation of his literary style, as well as his noble character, to the fact that his mother persuaded him to commit the book of Proverbs when a child. The child is led to talk and think of instances where children were chosen for God's service—of the lesson of humility and faith taught by setting a little child in the midst of the disciples; of the liberality of the little boy who gave the loaves and fishes when the great multitude was fed; of the sympathy of the little girl who directed Naaman, the Syrian Leper, to Elisha for a cure; of the patience of Miriam guarding her infant brother Moses by the side of the river; of the children singing the praise of Jesus in the temple, and of the child life of Joseph, Moses, Samuel and Timothy.

Also in the singing, the child learns in the Junior Missionary Society to sing the Psalms and to love them. The little heart swells with praise and joy as she sings. Sometimes, I fear, as United Presbyterians, whose destinctive principle is singing only inspired songs in worship, we might do much more to make the children love the Psalms. If any church is justified in very special work in music, *our* church is.

In our Junior Missionary Society is taught the grace of giving, with the many texts and examples of giving in the Bible, and examples in missionary history of great self denial. Cultivate this habit. The

more the child does for Jesus, the greater is the love. Allow me to give a personal illustration, to make clearer my point My two little children often save the largest apple, or choice dainty, to take to their teacher. I encourage this, believing that in no way can the bond of union and sympathy be made so strong as by these little sacrifices. In the Junior Missionary Society the child learns that money given to this society, to the church, or to the poor around us, is giving to Jesus.

It has been said by one of large experience that a children's missionary society trains the child in the work of the church more than the Sabbath-school, because in the latter the children recive all the blessing; but through the missionary society they extend these blessing to others, even to distant countries. In this society the importance of systematical giving is taught.

"In these days it seems as important and necessary to have a missionary education as an education in arithmetic, grammar and geography." A. T. Pearson says, "Facts are missionary fuel." The study of missions creates a knowledge of the people, of their names and customs, of geography and history. The study of the lives of the missionaries is ennobling. Alger says, "The deeds attained by great souls become the ideals toward which lesser souls strive."

The Junior Missionary Society is important for the childs' own sake, and for that of the church, who, fed on spiritual truth and missionary knowledge, will be made strong to carry forward in maturity our part of the work in evangelizing the world.

FANNIE B. DEAN.

The Missionary Mite Box.

ITS HISTORY.

What is it? A simple paper box.

To whom does it belong? The Women's Missionary Society.

What is it intended to hold? Offerings from grateful hearts.

"What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits?"

Why are the contents always of value? They are "offered willingly unto the Lord."

Who may use this box? All who love the Lord Jesus Christ, even the little children.

ITS OBJECT.

To help on a great and good work.

To give the gospel and its blessings to those that are without them.

To encourage giving at all times, and in all circumstances.

To educate people to deny themselves, and to share with others what their Heavenly Father has given them.

To gather in the *littles*, any coin from a *cent* upwards.

Have these boxes ever been useful in this way? Yes. In many homes and in our mission in India and Egypt we could tell of the wonderful help they have given. In some homes in Old England people have been using such boxes for forty years, and, during this time, many hundreds of dollars have been dropped into them.

ITS USE.

How shall we use the mite box?

Keep one for your own use in your own room or closet. Let it be a constant reminder of the daily ordinary blessings of your life.

Put one where friendly eyes can see it, to remind them of duty and privilege.

Encourage the children to use it, and be ready to answer their questions about it. It will become a real friend of the children. Many kindly, helpful family interests will gather around it.

Open it twice a year, or when you desire, and give the contents to your mission band or Junior society.

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof."—*Ex.*

Junior Programme for July.

Scripture Reading, John 1:19; John 3:16; John 4:14; John 6:35, 47, 48.

Bible verse for roll call

Bible Songs—10:7, 8; 47:1, 2; 68:1, 2; 215:1, 2.

Prayer.

BIBLE READING—HOW THE WORLD MAY BE BROUGHT TO CHRIST.

Four 'Hows" of Rom. 10:14, 16.

I. "How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?

The deepest needs of the heathen Gentiles are:

(a) To know God as the Father of our Lord Jesus. John 3:16, 17.
(b) To know Jesus as the only begotten of the Father. John 1:14; Heb. 1: 2, 3.
(c) To know the Holy Spirit as the revealer of all truth. John 16:13.
(d) They already know they are sinners. Rom. 1:32.
(e) They need to know the Saviour. John 12:32.

II. "How shall they hear without a preacher?"

(a) God has ordained that man should bear the message of salvation. Rom. 10:17.
(b) He thus manifests His Word. Titus 1: 3.
(c) It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save men. 1 Cor. 1:21.
(d) For this Jesus ordained men. Mark 3: 14.
(e) He commands them to witness. Acts 1: 8.

III. "How shall they preach except they be sent?"

(a) Every believer is sent. John 17:18.
(b) Commanded to go. Mark 16:15.
(c) Has committed to him the ministry of reconciliation. 1 Cor. 5:19.
(d) They need also to be sent by the brethren. Acts 13:3.
(e) They need the gifts of God's people. 1 Cor. 9:14.
(f) They also need their prayers. Thess. 5:25.

IV. "How beautiful the feet of those who preach the gospel." (See Isa. 52:7.)

(a) They are angels (messengers) of God. Psa. 104:4.
(b) They follow in the steps of Jesus. Isa. 61:1. Luke 4:18, 19, S. of S. 7:1, Eph. 6:15.
(c) Nothing more beautiful in the sight of God than the bearer of good tidings to lost souls.

Here are some Bible stories for the younger ones to tell during the meeting:

1. Healing of the nobleman's son. Jno. 4:47-33.
2. The little lad with the loaves and fishes. John 6:5-14.
3. The children crying "Hozanna" in the temple. Matt. 21:15 16.
4. Jesus blessing the children. Mark 10:13-16.

Wildomar, Cal. MRS. A. M. JAMISON.

EDITORIAL.

The Annual Meeting.

New Castle, Pa., was the hospitable hostess on the occasion of the sixteenth annual meeting of the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian church. Rippling streams, glittering foliage of all shades of green, tunnels, shelving rocks with the woodsy May air and sunny weather, gave variety and beauty to the journey, and the sentinel hills, keeping silent stedfast guard, were a perpetual reminder that "the Lord is round about his people." Three days were crowded with interest and work. Much was heard and done, and enjoyed —much.—

It may be well to consider the purpose of such gatherings. Is it for religious service, for a review of the year's work and for counseling together and formulating plans for the future, or for social reasons? It is for all this and more. Every service should be a religious service, if our lives are dedicated to the cause of Christ—"doing all things to the glory of God." It is of vital importance that each member be well informed in regard to the advancement of His kingdom in this world and the part her own denomination has in it. It is also important and pleasant to meet friends face to face from different sections of the church. The warm greeting cheers the heart and stimulates to greater faithfulness, "when cares press hard and anxieties will not be thrust aside." To know that one is part of a *body* whose aims are similar, and whom we can meet on the same social plane—*no caste*, but one in Christ Jesus, is an inspiration and helps to surmount obstacles, and enables us to share our pleasures and divide our sorrows.

"In the multitude of counselors there is wisdom." May this be true of those who have now returned to their homes and work,

and may each one seek prayerfully that guidance which alone can make wise, so that any counsel that may have been taken will at least lead to *safety*—and to the promotion of the cause of our Great Commander.

"Oh, wasn't it a good convention!" This expression fell repeatedly upon my ear, and it set me to thinking why it was good.

Good because of the missionary spirit that prevailed. As the bright, earnest missionaries present, with glowing face and fluent tongue, "rehearsed all that God had done for them," our hearts were very deeply stirred. When Miss M. J. Campbell told so pathetically of what occurred in their mission school when the request of the Foreign Board reached them, to "cut" down expenses, we felt that the "cut" had made very deep wounds in the hearts of the missionaries, as well as in the lives of the children under their care. Yea, as we heard of what it meant to them we felt that the "sword had pierced our own souls" also. Where lies the responsibility? Well may we ask as I did, "Is it at my door?"

But over against that feeling of sadness came the antidote. Never shall I forget the glow that overspread the faces of the missionaries as upon motion of Mrs. H. C. Campbell the convention enthusiastically voted $1500 from the Home Mission fund into the treasury of the General Foreign Board toward the payment of the foreign debt.

When retrenchment may mean loss of precious souls, as Mrs. Reid said, we should have a care that we "build the walls of Jerusalem" rather than call for "woodmen to cut them down,"

It was a "good" convention, because of the prominence given to the twin graces—prayer and giving. These are so entwined that the one does not truly exist without the other. Prayer *before* giving, *while* giving, and *after* giving will produce a wonderful harvest. "Better a *penny* with prayer than a *pound* with indifference," said Dr. Gordon. Let the spirit of the convention on true systematic giving over flow through the delegates and visitors until it shall materialize in the individual societies into deeper and broader efforts than ever before.

Reports and statistics are not generally the most interesting of things, but when presented as they were here, and explained by pleasant voices and smiling faces, they become an inspiration and give new zeal and impetus to the work. The influence of the social side of the convention can not be too highly valued, for the cordial welcome and the kindly word are so much seed sown broadcast. *This* convention, baptized as it was by many prayers, can not fail to produce a realization of our personal responsibilities, and stimulate the faith that

> "Laughs at impossibilities,
> And cries, 'It shall be done!' "

A VISITOR.

Erie, Pa.

Having been in attendanee at six annual conventions of the W. G. M. S., and being a delegate at only one of them, I was perfectly free to look on and note the various constituents of these different meetings. And while we are conscious of the truth that any one can tear down, and it takes a master mechanic to build aright, yet we feel that there are some very good things which we desire to commend in all and some which we should avoid in the spirit of kindness and for the good of the cause.

It has been said that "our enemies point out our faults else we might never improve sufficiently to retain our friends." Therefore in the supposed spirit of an enemy we proceed to help this highest body of the women of our beloved church to retain its friends.

Each annual meeting of this convention should profit from the experiences of the past and be better. But to make comparisons with previous meetings seems to me unjust, as we meet at different places, each time under different circumstances and with different delegates. While we may have improved in many things, I fear we have not in all.

Our officers were well prepared for their very exacting duties. As there were no vice-presidents in attendance, the president presided at each session and was "just as

sweet and fresh at the close as at the beginning," and never exhibited impatience once on account of confusion or inattention. Her address was as good as a sermon and was delivered without notes, which always produces a better impression on an audience than by reading. She was a good parliamentarian, and the members of convention appreciated her ability.

The secretary and treasurer are well fitted for their positions and are continued in their offices from year to year. They not only carry the burden of the work, but prepare very interesting reports for all of these conventions and still some think they are dry and don't listen to them. Now, my dear readers, there are no secretaries who give more interesting and varied reports on these old subjects. They are not at all like the dry bones of Ezekiel's vision, but are full of the spirit of the Lord, and it would be well for us all if we would only catch a little of that same spirit ourselves. They are confronted with the same questions each year, and yet they smile and answer them as clearly as if they had *never* been raised before.

In looking over the program I see that each person was given an exact amount of time for her report or address. All trespassed the rules but two. There is little excuse for this if each one will confine herself to the exact time allowed by the program committee.

As I looked over the large audience and took notice of the different attitudes and expressions of the delegates, I wondered if they were conscious of the fact that they were each one a part of the highest organized body of women in our church. Delegates are sent by societies for the object of gaining instruction and knowledge in our work; but, as has been said, "There is no wine equal to the wine of friendship," and we should beware of becoming intoxicated by it and thus become unfitted for the Lord's business.

All our speakers had good voices, and could have been heard had there been perfect quiet inside the church. Future rulings can improve on this, which to me was the only thing that marred this convention. The weather was perfect, the preparations by the entertainment and refreshment committies and all the members of both our city churches were complete, and nothing seemed to be forgotten to make us entirely comfortable and feel very much at home. Smiles and tears were very much in evidence as we listened to the pleasing and encouraging experiences, or the sad and affecting stories of the experiences of our missionaries, and they seemed to make us feel as never before how much we are responsible for it all.

The excellent music furnished during the evening and the day sessions were a most enjoyable part of the program. Taking it altogether the sixteenth annual meeting of the W. G. M. S. was an exceedingly successful one. So let us go forward steadily and without fear, forgetting the things that are behind, striving for *perfection* in all things.

LUELLA C. DONNAN,

Cochranton, Pa.

From the New Castle *Guardian*:

Great interest is being manifested in the Women's General Missionary Convention of the United Presbyterian church, now in progress at the Second United Presbyterian church and all the sessions are full of interest. The people of the city are also taking interest in the work of the women and many attend every session. The delegates are pleased with the spirit of enthusiasm shown on all sides and all speak in glowing terms of the many kindnesses and attention shown them by the members of the two local United Presbyterian churches and by the people of the city at large.

Mrs. Bullard and Mrs. Thurgood, representatives of the Christian Women's Board of Missions, brought greetings to the convention. This board has missions in China, India, Jamaica, Mexico and the United States, and supports a Bible chair in Ann Arbor and other colleges. The president, Mrs. Kyle, returned thanks for the greeting.

Mrs. H. C. Campbell, Home Mission Secretary, gave her time to Rev. A. Speer, of the Warm Springs Indian mission, who was present. Mr. Speer thinks it fitting that the Indian work should be under the care of the women. Among the Warm Springs Indians, the older women are really the masters of the younger women—the daughters-

in-law, who are actual slaves—and masters of the men, as well. The young people in general have little identity; are under the authority of their elders. This is why young Indians, after leaving school, so often lapse into their original condition. They should not be brought among their people, unless the government looks after the tribe itself, and enforces a change of customs.

Mrs. T. F. Cummings, Miss Mary Campbell and Miss Mary Martin, all of our India Mission, were introduced, and in turn briefly addressed the convention; clearly bringing home to their hearers the contrast between the condition of women and children here and in heathendom, and the changes wrought by Christian training. The beginning and progress of the recent marvelous awakening in India were graphically described. As Mrs. Cummings said, "The answer to persistent prayer for God's Spirit came as a reviving force, first to the missionaries themselves, then to the workers, and with them to the girls under their care." Prayers at home for the missionaries were urgently asked for. Mrs. Wm. Taylor, formerly a Presbyterian medical missionary, was introduced, and gave earnest and eloquent testimony to the worth of our Egyptian mission, which, as a visitor, she had seen. Her remark that, of all the great things in Egypt, "it was the greatest," provoked one of the few bursts of applause of the meeting. Mrs. McKee, formerly of our Indian mission, spoke a few appreciative and encouraging words.

A communication from Chicago, presbytery was read asking $1,000 a year from the W. G. M. S. for the Messiah Mission, of Chicago, founded by the Rev. Thos. M. Chalmers, for work among the Jews. The proportion of conversions to Christianity from Judaism is stated in the application to be from two to three times as great as heathenism. Mrs. Mary Stewart, of Bethel congregation, Illinois, has left a legacy of $3,000 for a mission to the Jews, provided there be such a mission under the control of the United Presbyterian Church within ten years. It is desired to place the Messiah mission under the care of the Women's Board. If income enough were secured, Mrs. Chalmers, who speaks German and South German dialects, can reach the women, and devote herself to work among them. The Board of Home Missions has not felt that it could recommend the undertaking of the work at this time. A motion, however, was carried that this convention authorize the Women's Board to undertake this work, provided a committee, to be appointed by the Board, on examination of the field, report favorably, and the General Assembly approve.

Important Notice.

It is desired that all papers read at the Convention be sent to the editors of the Magazine *at once*, that they may be ready for use in successive numbers throughout the year as formerly.

The Minutes of the Women's General Missionary Society, which met at New Castle, Pa., will be published in the July number of the Magazine. Reports of secretaries and statistics will be sent out in pamphlet form as last year.

One of the pleasantries of the convention and the trip to New Wilmington was when delegates were invited to a seat in President Lincoln's private car, an old iron-sheathed car with seats along the side, which was here attached to the train, one in which for safety Abraham Lincoln was taken to Washington for his first inauguration. The visit to New Wilmington was simply delightful. Carriages took a large number, and the rest of the 200 or more visitors, whom the college boys and girls had greeted with their yell, under the escort of President R. G. Fergusou, walked to gymnasium, where all enjoyed the dainty and abundant luncheon and the music of the Philharmonic Mandolin Club. Russell Miller, Dr. R. J. Miller's son, Wednesday evening's winner in the intercollegiate contest, was in the club, and was the object of quite as much interest, apparently, as the music, though the latter was fully appreciated.

United Presbyterian Association.

Annual Report read at New Castle, Pa., by MRS. JOHN CRAWFORD.

In bringing to you the annual report of our Association work, it may be similar in many points to reports of former years, yet we feel assured of your interest in our institutions, for it is ever manifest by your contributions, your prayers and your strong financial aid.

A plea for help for our Homes or Hospital

has never failed to find a responsive chord in the hearts of our people, and we are also sure of your interest in our general wellfare, and it therefore gives us much pleasure to give, as briefly as possible, a statement of our work:

ORPHANS' HOME.

Last October closed twenty years of labor in our Orphans' Home. During that period 1473 children have been cared for, fed, clothed and taught the way of life. The retrospect of these twenty years reveals much that as a church we may rejoice over. There are childless homes all over our land that have been brightened by the presence of children who have been received from our Orphans' Home, and there are children, whose young lives have been saddened by the loss of parents, who rejoice in the care and love of devoted foster parents.

Our church has nobly come to the support of the Orphans' Home, and they in turn have been enriched in numbers and laborers by these orphans, who have learned the way of salvation and have consecrated their lives to the Saviour.

Since last May thirty-five have been admitted to the Home; two of these are a dear little brother and sister from the Princeton church, and we hope in the future to secure for them a home together in some Christian family where they will receive loving care and be trained for usefulness in the world and the church. Our present number is 70. We have been obliged to refuse many applications for admission, as they did not come within our rules, or our little Home would soon be too small to receive all who are entitled to admission.

We have organized a Young Ladies' Auxiliary, such as they have found so helpful in the Home for the Aged, and hope ours will be as successful in entertaining the children. The duties of this Auxiliary are to provide some entertainment for them as often as possible during the month, to visit the Home frequently and become acquainted with the children, read to them, and sing with them.

Our Junior Missionary Society, under the care of Miss Musgrave and her assistants, are still doing good work. And the new Junior paper now published finds many interested readers among our children.

Our House Committee, consisting of nine managers, have met at the Home every week and spent the entire day in looking after the affairs, conferring with the matron in many matters, and aiding the seamstress in the sewing. Never has the Home had more careful supervision than during the past year, and the results are truly gratifying. Fifty of our family go to the public school. Our children study hard and stand well in their classes, and, we think, appeal strongly to the church and to missionary societies for a generous support. Will you not, dear friends, when you go home and render to your societies a report of this meeting, remember to urge your sisters ever to keep in mind the children of our Orphans' Home in Allegheny?

HOME FOR THE AGED.

Our Home for the Aged is next in order of our institutions, but are hearts are so full of thanksgiving that we hasten to tell you that, since our last report to you, the cloud, the burden of debt, has been cleared away. The amount was raised through the liberality of friends, proceeds of lawn fete, bazaar, bequests, etc., etc.

Two bequests have been paid recently, one from Mrs. Sarah Patterson, of Elizabeth, Pa., of $100, and one from Mrs. Nancy Pillow, of Springdale, Pa., of $200. Another bequest of $1500, from Mrs. Wm. Miller, will soon be paid. Mrs. Wm. Miller, the mother of our Association president, Mrs. H. C. Campbell, always manifested deep interest in our Home for the Aged from its foundation. She furnished a room when the Home was first opened; which has always been known as "the Miller room." Since her death it has been made memorial by our Board of Management in token of our high esteem for this dear friend. We delight to honor one who was so kind in her benefactions to us. We have still six rooms which have not been made memorial. The lawn fete netted $1468.64; another will be held on June 29, 1899, to which you are all most cordially invited. Do come, so you may inspect the Home and see for yourselves how

our old people are cared for, as well as enjoy a pleasant day with friends who will assemble on the spacious ground.

For many donations received we refer you to the published report. There are at present thirty-seven in the Home. Eight have been admitted since last April; one was dismissed to relatives on account of melancholia. Four have died. Two of those who left us for the Eternal Home were much interested in mission work. Miss Nancy Creighton was at one time a city missionary in Allegheny. Mrs. Dunlap, from Chase City, Va. and her husband, were for twenty years helpers in the Freedmen's mission. They were with us only a short time ere they entered into the rest that remaineth for the people of God.

Let us again remind you that the helping hand of our Association is far reaching. Four of those who came to us were from a distance—one from Illinois, one from Massachusetts, one from Nebraska, and the one mentioned from Chase City, Va.

We are supplied with regular service on Sabbath afternoons by the ministers, elders, and young people's societies of Pittsburg and Allegheny, and the services are much appreciated, as most of our family cannot go to church.

The Young Ladies Auxilary is still doing kind and efficient work for the pleasure of our aged ones. On each Thursday afternoon you will find some of them reading or making music to cheer those who are cut off from the active pleasures of life. Five evening entertainments have been given by these young people. The spirit of helpfulness is not lacking in our home family. The Dorcas society is still flourishing, and those who are able make garments and knit stockings for the children in the Orphans' Home. We know our aged ones unite their prayers for a blessing on all branches of our work, that others may share in the benefits of the Christ-like spirit that so kindly cares for them.

One member from our Board has answered the call to come up higher, and our hearts are sad in the loss of Mrs. Jane Gillespie, who was a most faithful friend and worker. She was a charter and life member of the Association, and in later years became a life director. She was a member of the Orphans' Home Board for years and worked and planned for the children in the day of small things before the work was thoroughly organized.

With this dear friend has gone another, Mrs. Jane Henry, who with her husband gave so liberally to our Home for the Aged when it was first founded. Her generous donations to the Orphans' Home and Hospital have been received from time to time, and, we are informed, she has not forgotten them in her last will.

HOSPITAL.

The annual message from our Hospital is tuned in a minor key, yet ringing through it is the sweet, glad strain of hope, which we trust will peal forth in glad anthems of praise when we come to you a year hence. The legal difficulties of this institution are familiar to those who read our church publications and the annual report of the Association. Following the settlement of this litigation, a meeting of our Board of Directors and the Advisory Board was held, at which time it was decided that more ground was needed in order to secure a four story building instead of a five as was at first contemplated. A lot 28 feet front, adjoining the property so kindly donated by our departed friend, Dr. J. B. Herron, was accordingly purchased. Plans were then prepared by our architect, and were ready for inspection at our annual meeting in October, which provided for a plain substantial brick building, fire proof and perfectly adapted to the requirements of a first class hospital. The approximate cost reached the sum of $76,000.

After considering these plans and the amount of money needed, it was decided not to build so expensively, but make a beginning on a lower financial basis, and advance as the Lord may direct. New plans were, therefore, secured providing for one large, well equipped building on the front of the property, which it is thought will meet all the demands on us at present. The lowest estimated cost to materialize these

plans is $45,000. About one year ago $16,000 was in the hands of our treasurer, $9,500 of which was paid for the additional property purchased, and since that time the balance of about $6,000 has been raised to 14,239. This amount, now in our treasury must be increased by seven or eight thousand before we can go forward, for our Association adopted a resolution two years ago to the effect that at least one half the amount must be in the hands of our treasurer, or in bona fide subscriptions when we place our contract.

We make this explanation so that our friends may understand that every step of the way leading to this new work has been thoughtfully mapped out and that no undue haste has been exercised in any way. Our pathway has been very dark, and we have been obliged in faith and trust to move onward just as light was revealed. We, therefore, beg the indulgence of those who have been expecting more progress, and hope that that they will not lose interest in the project, nor faith in the workers. Our prayers and efforts will be most earnestly given to secure the necessary amount to make a beginning toward the erection of this much needed hospital—needed for the proper care of the inmates of our Homes, and for the many suffering women and children of our own denominational family, who would be so glad to come to us for relief, and needed too for the many who have no one in church or home to care for them, and to whom we would gladly minister if it were possible. The severe illness of our matron, and the great difficulty in securing good help in the domestic department, placed additional burdens upon us; but around and underneath were the Everlasting Arms, so that the ministrations of our head nurse and her assistants, together with the skill and faithfulness of the medical staff, have been abundantly blessed to the relief and recovery of all the eighty-one patients who have been under our care since our annual meeting in October. Six of this number were women, and the seventy-five others were children of the Orphans' Home and the Children's Aid societies.

The dilapitated condition of our building, and the impossibility of making it thoroughly comfortable, caused actual suffering to the inmates when the thermometer registered so many degrees below zero this winter. May we not then press the needs of our suffering ones on the heart of every women in this presence so that she may go home determined to lend a hand, doing what she can to secure the large gifts from the few, and the small gifts from the many, that great numbers of our good United Presbyterian friends would willingly bestow, if the needs of the work were understood. We will go forward as before, relying on the promises of God with full assurance that, as we minister to the sick in the name of the Great Physician, the hearts of His people will respond to our necessities.

DONATIONS.

As an Association we are deeply thankful for the generous donations of fruit, vegetables, etc., received from many churches, thus providing for our several institutions many luxuries which we could not otherwise have given, and which have given material aid in reducing the expense of maintenance. When the glad day of endowment comes, for come it will, we shall not have to urge you to continue in this happy giving, but until that time, pray for us, dear friends, that "our God will supply all our need" and give from your abundant store to help those less fortunate.

In closing, let me ask you for one moment to think of the impetus it would give to the Lord's work if the more than sixty thousand women of our church would become annual members of our Association. It would not in the slightest way lessen your interest in missionary work, for down through all time comes the cry, "The poor ye have always with you."

Our ranks are being depleted, Miss Mary Herron, who was deeply interested in all departments of our work has also been called home. We have lost earnest workers and several aged friends by death. Our list of crowned ones is increasing, and we need workers to step into these vacancies.

Ceylon, a Key to India.

The names of the Misses Leitch have become closely associated with missionary work in Ceylon, as they have for some years been identified with such efforts in that "Pearl of the Indies." Recently an extra issue of "The Missionary Herald" (published by the A. B. C. F. M.) was given over to the ladies mentioned that they might present, in a pointed manner, the importance of evangelical work among the Ceylonese. The pamphlet is a very interesting one, and it would be useful, did occasion permit, to give a more detailed account of the facts related by the Misses Leitch. At this time, it must suffice to repeat what seems to have been the chief object of their writing, namely, to impress people with the truth that India could be more quickly and easily evangelized by means of native Ceylonese missionaries than by those coming from countries entirely foreign in language, customs, and habit of thought. Hence arises the importance now of furthering the Christian cause in Ceylon, and of carrying on the training already begun there. We quote the following sentence: "Christian young men from Ceylon are now employed as mission helpers in connection with twelve Protestant missionary societies in Ceylon and India, and they have gone as far afield as Burma, Singapore, Penang, the Straits Settlements and Borneo."

The authors of this pamphlet propose a certain system of shareholding, by which the work in Ceylon may be sustained and extended. Any one desiring to secure this instructive number of "The Missionary Herald" may obtain it, postpaid, for the sum of ten cents. Address Charles E. Swett, No. 14 Beacon street, Boston, Mass.

Xenia, O. MARY H. WILSON.

"Rest."

We have been requested to re-produce from an East Liverpool, O. paper, the following tender and beautiful verses, written by the late Mrs. Eva Mackintosh, a tribute to whose memory will be found elsewhere. It was read, subsequent to her decease, by Dr. J. C. Taggart at a service of the First United Presbyterian church of that place:

In that home above, in my Father's house,
Amid all the glories there,
Can it be, prepared by His loving hands,
That I have a mansion fair?
Can it be that I, whose home upon earth
Has been but a lonely cot,
Shall dwell in a mansion supremely fair
By the hand of Omnipotence wrought?

Can it be when I enter those pearly gates,
Amid all the ransomed throng,
That my eyes shall behold in His beauty the King,
And my lips shall join in the song,
And these hands, all unskilled in the music of earth
And wearied with labors untold,
Shall suddenly sweep with magical skill
The wonderful harp strings of gold?

Shall my feet, which so often have wandered away
From the paths which my Saviour trod,
Be permitted to stand on the banks of that stream
Which flows from the throne of God?
Can it be that this brow which is shadowed with grief,
And furrowed with many a care,
Shall be graced with a crown of the purest gold,
Such as the ransomed wear?

Yes; I know that I have a mansion fair
In that beautiful house of His;
That I shall be like unto Him there
And shall see Him just as He is.
That my lips shall join in the song of praise—
That song which will never grow old,
And my hands shall waken to sweetest strains
The wonderful harp strings of gold;

That my feet which stumble at every step
And carry me far astray,
On the banks of the beautiful river of life
Shall wander there day by day.
And I know that the crown that will deck my brow
Will be surpassingly fair;
For my Saviour procured that crown for me
And his hand will place it there.

A new society at Duffs, Pa. sends five names as subscribers to the Magazine.

A Missionary Heroine in Burmah.

A romance of missions, strange yet true, reached a happy culmination not long ago, as related by a Christian gentleman who was present to see a mother rejoice over answered prayers.

"At Rangoon I attended service at the

chapel of the American Mission. Over one thousand adults were present, and the preacher, twenty-two years of age, who had arrived at Rangoon the day before, preached with marvelous fluency. He was a missionary's son, As a child he lived with his father and mother in the jungles of Burmah, where it was the business of the father to follow the Karens, who were nomads in their wanderings. Cholera came, and the missionary died. It seemed the plain duty of the widow to return to America with her only child, that he might be educated. But the thought came, 'If I leave these Karens, who is going to look after them?'

"She saw it to be her duty to let her son go home by himself, while she remained in the jungle to carry out the work. For seven years and a half she toiled, doing herself the full work of a missionary all alone. She preached, baptized, administered the sacraments, buried the members when they died, and saw a great harvest. All the the time she prayed, 'God save my boy.' One day a letter came. He was converted, and wrote, 'I think I will be a missionary' She replied, 'That is what I want; come and take your father's work.' The day before she had welcomed her boy, and now sat hearing him preach. I said to myself, 'If ever Christ had a heroine, this is one.'" W. M. M.

July Programme for Missionary Societies.

Subject.—The Great Harvest Field—the World.

1. Silent prayer, followed by repeating in concert Psalm 19, verse 14.
2. Singing, Bible songs, No. 139.
3. Prayer by leader.
4. Scripture reading, Isaiah 55 chapter.
5. Singing, Bible songs, No. 188.
6. Roll call—"What the Word says concerning the field and reapers."

Matthew	28	chapter,	19, 20	verses.
Mark	16	"	15	"
Isaiah	32	"	20	"
Eccl.	11	"	6	"
2 Cor.	9	"	6	"
Gal.	6	"	7, 8, 9,	"
Joel	3	"	12, 13, 14,	"
Matthew	9	"	37, 38,	"
Luke	10	"	2	"
John	4	"	35	"

and other similar passages.

7. Short talks or papers.
   (a) My field.—Home or abroad?
   (b) My work.—Sowing or reaping?
   (c) My tools.—The Word, prayer, gifts.
8. Gleanings from the field. Have each member give briefly one fact regarding the work or the workers in one of the various mission fields of the world. Make a request at the June meeting tha members prepare themselves for this exercise.
9. Season of prayer.
10. Singing, Bible songs, No. 88.

MRS. S. M. BAILEY,
MRS. L. M. COOTES.

Buffalo, New York.

STUDIES FOR MISSIONARY SOCIETIES FOR 1899.

July—The Great Harvest-field—the World.
August—Young People in Missions.
September—Our Own Educational and Medical Work, Foreign and Home.
October—Growth of Protestant Rule During the Century and Relation to Missions.
November—"A New World"—Africa," and the Freedmen.
December—"The King of Glory," Thou art the King of glory, Oh! Christ.

REPORTS, Etc.

May Report of Women's Board.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board was held Tuesday, May 2d. Every member of the Board present to hear the annual report of the secretaries and treasurer, prepared for the annual convention, to be held at New Castle, Pa., May 9-12.

Mrs. W. J. Reid and Mrs. Annie R. Herron were appointed delegates to the General Assembly, to meet in Philadelphia in May.

Short monthly reports were given. Freedmen's secretary reported a class of mothers organized at Henderson, N. C., to learn to sew. The necessary material was ordered to be sent.

The terms of five members of the Board expire with the coming meeting of the W. G. M. S. MARY W. PORTER, Sec'y.

Presbyterial Missionary Societies.

College Springs.

The L. M. S. of College Springs presbytery met in convention at College Springs, October 19 and 20, 1898 with Mrs. E. M Williamson, of Tingley, as presiding officer. Owing to the great inclemency of the weather and the almost impassable roads, only 37 delegates responded to the roll call. But the good people of College Springs, with their untiring energies and generous hospitality, together with their beautiful and commodious church building, made it a convention long to be remembered.

The convention was opened by exercises by the Juniors, conducted by Miss Belle Anderson, which was very entertaining and profitable to all present. We noticed a special feature in this exercise, that of the presence of so many little boys. This was followed by an address by the president which deserves special mention. Rev. Calhoun, president of Amity College, gave the convention an invitation to meet in chapel exercises the following morning. The invitation was accepted. After devotions we were highly entertained by music, instrumental and vocal by members of the faculty, and recitation by Miss Lulu Calhoun. The program of convention was carried out in full. The papers were excellent. The report from the General Convention by Mrs. Irwin, of Clarinda, was full and interesting. The most important items of business were relative to subscriptions for Magazine and change of time of our annual convention. It was decided that all subscriptions to MAGAZINE shoul be sent the last of December or last of July directly to the treasurer at Xenia. The motion to change time of our convention to an earlier part of the season, will be acted upon at our next annual meeting. The following officers were elected, President, Mrs. Kate F. White, Clearfield, Ia.; First Vice President, Mrs. Calhoun College Spring; 2nd Vice President, Mrs. Jos. McNab, Blanchard, Ia; Rec. Sec. Miss Lulu B. Calhoun, Mt. Ayr, Ia.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. S E. Martin, College Springs; Treasurer, Miss Belle Anderson, College Springs; Junior Sec., Mrs. Margaret Reese, Tarkio, Mo.; Literature Sec, Mrs. Jos. McNab, Blanchard; Thank-offering Sec., Mrs. J. R. Henderson, College Springs. The closing address by Miss Campbell was one of the grandest we have ever heard. Do Foreign Missions pay? We say Yes with great emphasis since hearing her address. The convention of 1899 will meet in October at Mt. Ayr, Ia.

Des Moines.

The Annual Convention of the Ladies' Missionary Society of Des Moines presbytery was held at Palo Alto, Iowa, March 28 and 29 and twenty-two delegates responded to roll call.

The devotional exercises were led by the president, Mrs. Mary L. Porter, of Winterset, Iowa. A very cordial welcome was extended to the delegates and visitors by Miss Mary Miller, of Newton, to which Mrs. Porter responded. The annual address of the President was heartily enjoyed by all present.

Mrs. Emma Nichol, of Monmouth, then addressed us on the subject, "Do Foreign Missions Pay." Nothing but praise was heard from all and the interest in missions was much increased.

On Wednesday morning the devotional exercises were led by Mrs. Brown, of Dexter. The report of the officers was encouraging, though there is room for improvement. A letter from Miss C. E. Wilson, whom this society helps to support, was read and enjoyed and a season of prayer was observed in behalf of Miss Wilson and her sister in the work.

The conference, The Boards of our Church, was led by Mrs. Ralph Griffith, of Ewart. Foreign Missions were discussed by Mrs. W. W. Wright, of Unity; Home Missions, by Mrs. R. C. Finney, of Union; Freedmen's Missions, by Mrs. McKitrick, of First Des Moines.

The afternoon session was opened with a prayer and praise service, led by Mrs. Jackson, of Albia. A novel feature of the afternoon programme was "A Model Missionary Society," led by Mrs. S. R. Jamison, of Summerset. The subject was Temperance, and two good papers were read by Miss Mary Schooler, of Summerset, and Mrs. Nelson, of Indianola. Mrs. Robert Hill, whose daughter, Miss Kate Hill, is in India, followed with a paper, "How to Raise Funds in the Model Missionary Society," which was much enjoyed by all.

Next in order was the election of officers, which resulted as follows: Pres., Miss Mary Miller, of Newton; 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. R. C. Finney, of Union; 2nd Vice Pres., Miss Rhodes, of Palo Alto; Sec, Mrs. Jennie R. McBride, of Oskaloosa; Trea., Mrs. Anna Dowell, of Indianola; Thank-offering Sec., Mrs. E. J Gowdy, of Des Moines; Lit. Sec., Mrs. J. H. Gibson, of Monroe; Jr. Sec., Mrs. I M. Knipe of Service. With the exception of President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, all officers were elected for three years. Mrs. Knipe was elected delegate to the W. G. M. S.

The convention on its second evening was opened by a prayer and promise service led by Mrs. Nelson, of Indianola. Then followed a conference on Junior work, led by Mrs. Knipe. A question box was conducted by Mrs. Ferguson. A very interesting paper was read by Mrs. J. H. Gibson on, "Shall we retrench our present missionary work in order to take up work in our new national possessions or in Khartoum." By a vote of the Society it was requested that the paper, "Indifference in Missionary Work," by Mrs. R. H. Burnside, of Oskaloosa, be published in the Magazine. The Thank-offering exercises were led by Mrs. Gowdy, "The Crown of Thanksgiving" was used.

The members of the convention expressed their appreciation of the kind hospitality of the good people of Palo Alto and adjourned to meet at Oskaloosa on the fourth Tuesday of March, 1900.

JENNIE RANKIN MCBRIDE.

Xenia.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Women's Missionary society of Xenia Presbytery convened in the United Presbyterian church at Cedarville, O., April 6, 1899. The morning devotions were in charge of Mrs. Geo. Moore, who conducted a Bible reading on "Christian Service and Its Reward." The societies of the Presbytery were all represented but one, Greenfield.

A welcome was extended by Mrs. F. O. Ross, of Cedarville. Response and President's address by Mrs. R. S. Finley.

The reports from the various departments were full of interest. The treasurer, Mrs. Geo. Moore, reported a total contribution from all societies for the year, of $1807.90.

Mrs. S M Kelso's report on Training School, showed that institution to be no longer an experiment. She was followed by Mrs. McKnight and Miss Sarah Reed.

The thank-offering secretary, Mrs. A. K. Strane, of Reynoldsburg, reported for that work, and in the evening conducted a thank-offering exercise. The amount of the offering from all societies was $625.

An excellent report of the Women's MAGAZINE, prepared by Miss Sallie McDowell, was read by Mrs. W. C. Hutchison.

Much commendation was given Miss Effie Barber, of Springfield, for efficiency as Literature secretary. The report of Mrs Anna Holmes, Junior superintendent, showed an increased interest in

Junior work. The committee on nominations reported the following: Pres., Mrs. J. R. Dunlap, Columbns; 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Hume; 2nd Vice Pres., Mrs. F. O. Ross; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Lucy Barber, Cedarville; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Etta H. Liggett, New California, Ohio; Thank-offering Sec., Mrs. Strane: Lit. Sec., Miss Reed; Jr. Sec. Mrs. Holmes; Treas., Mrs. Geo. Moore.

The following delegates to the W. G. M. S. were chosen: Mrs. McMichael, Sugarcreek; Mrs. Liggett, New California; Mrs. Boatman, Greenfield; Mrs. Magruder, Xenia; Mrs. W. S. McClure, Xenia; Mrs. J. O. Stewart, Cedarville. Respective Alternates: Miss Emma Bigger, Miss Lulu Robinson, Miss Wallace, Mrs. D. H. Cherry, Mrs. Thos. Moore, Mrs. A. F. Kerr.

That the women of the Xenia Presbyterial are not unmindful of the perils that threaten the best interests of our country in the election of the polygamist Roberts, of Utah, to a seat in Congress, was brought out in a resolution prepared by Miss S. McDowell and Mrs J. F. Hutchison. The resolution was adopted by a rising vote and ordered to be forwarded to the proper authorities at Washington. The devotional exercises of the evening were conducted by Mrs. Hume, who gave a Bible reading on the theme "Exalt Christ."

A short program by the Cedarville Juniors was given, which reflected great credit on their superintendent and leaders The subjects, "Our Work in Egypt" and "The Outlook for our Church—Occupying Khartoum" were well handled by Mrs. W. C. Hutchison, Xenia, and Mrs. Ray, of Columbus. A vote of thanks was given Mrs. R. S. Finley, the retiring president, who has so faithfully and efficiently served this Presbyterial Society for a number of years. After the benediction by Dr. Morton, of the Reformed Presbyterian church, the association adjourned to meet in Springfield on the first Thursday in April 1900. ELINOR COLLINS, Cor. Sec.

Monmouth.

The annual meeting of the Women's Presbyterial Missionary society of Monmouth Presbytery was held at Gladstone, Ill., April 6, 1899. Delegates were present from every society save one.

The devotional exercises of the morning session were conducted by Mrs. T. H Hanna, after which came the usual routine of business of such bodies.

The first exercise of the afternoon session was the Thank-offering service, conducted by Mrs. N. H. Brown. The amount of the offering was $561.20, the largest in five years.

In a conference on the "Local Society," Mrs. J. M. Henderson spoke of "Its Needs;" Miss Nairn gave some of "Its Possibilities," and "Methods found successful" was given by Mrs. J. E. Miller.

The officers elected for the next two years are President, Mrs. Emma Nichol; Vice-Pres., Mrs. H. A. Foster; Rec. Sec., Miss Lulu Atchison; Junior Sec., Miss Anna Hogue. The delegates who shall represent the Presbyterial at the General Convention are, Miss Anna Hogue and Miss Jennie Pollock.

In the evening an address was to have been given by Miss Campbell, but being unable to be present a letter was read from her, telling of the work she has been doing in this country in the interest of missions.

Miss Rena Reyner, a returned missionary from Japan, was present and kindly consented to give a talk on missions in that field. Miss Reyner spent seven years in Japan, and was able to give a very interesting and vivid discription of the work there.

It was voted to change the time of the annual meeting from spring to fall, so the next meeting will be held in October, at Kirkwood.

The Olena and South Henderson societies entertained the delegates and visitors at the Gladstone Hotel. MRS. J. B. HERBERT, Sec. pro tem.

Arkansas Valley.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Arkansas Valley Presbyterial Woman's Missionary Society was held in Arkansas City April 12th, 1899.

This meeting was favored with the presence of Miss Mary Campbell, of our India mission, who conducted the opening exercises, Isa. 6th chapter was read as a scripture lesson. The 8th verse was made the subject of her talk, in which we were urged to hear and obey God's voice.

Mrs. J. R. Herron, of Arkansas City, gave delegates and visitors an appropriate and cordial welcome. To this address our president, Mrs. J. C. Gibney, of Sunny Dale, fittingly responded.

After the business hour an Open Parlament on "Best Methods" was held. conducted by Mrs. Brush, of Walton, who also opened the general discussion, from which we received helpful hints on how to "Conduct Devotional Exercises" and "Increase Missionary Intelligence."

The question, "What would Jesus Do?" was answered in a Bible reading, conducted by Mrs. Bell.

Papers on the following subjects were read, showing much thought and careful preparation, at the same time giving many helpful and suggestive plans for work: "Christian Women in Reform Work," Mrs. E. J. McCarroll; "Relation of Home Training to Church Growth," Miss Dobbins; "Blessings of the Social Feature of our Monthly Meetings," Mrs. Maxwell; "Facts from the Foreign Field," Mrs. H. A. Hunter.

An interesting Question Box was conducted by Mrs. J. H. Hamilton.

Officers elected for the coming year are as follows: Pres., Mrs. H. A. Hunter, Newton; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. Dr. Spencer, Sterling; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. Sara Smith, Arkansas City; Cor. Sec., Mrs. J. A. Hunter, Newton; Rec. Sec., Miss Gertrude Gilchrist, Walton; Treas., Mrs. M. B. Welch, Sterling; Lit. Sec., Miss M. S. Anderson, La Crosse; Jun. Sec., Mrs. Robison, Peotone; Y. O. Sec., Mrs. Emma Sleeth, Arkansas City.

One pleasant feature of the evening session was the reading of a letter from our missionary, Miss Mary A. Lawrence, of the Girls' Boarding School at Sialkote, India.

Miss Campbell gave the address of the evening and held the rapt attention of the audience for an hour as she presented one picture after another to our minds eye of the work and its needs in India.

Reluctant good byes were said to the hospitable people of Arkansas City, and we went home with good resolutions to extend the Master's kingdom as best we could in our respective fields of labor.

MRS. H. M. HUTCHISON, Rec. Sec.

Central Illinois.

The annual Presbyterial of the W. M. S. of Central Illinois Presbytery met at Harmony church May 3, 1899, at 7:30 p. m.

An address was given by Mrs. Jennie Logue Campbell, of Monmouth, on "Woman's Sphere in Christian Work." The morning session was occupied with the usual routine of business.

Papers were read in the afternoon by Mrs. G. E. Young, of Piper City, on "Why Should I Study Missions?" by Miss Ida McKibben, of Hoopeston, on "Why Should I give to Missions?" and by Mrs. Wm. McCullough, of Bethel, on "Why Should I Pray for Missions?" These papers contained many helpful suggestions. A conference was held on "Hindrances to Interest in Mission Work;" opened by Mr. McStravick; "Helps to Interest in Mission Work," opened by Mrs. Hugh Dunnan.

The following officers were elected: Pres., Mrs. J. E. McFadden, Eden, Ill.; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. G. E. Young, Piper City; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. John Black, Washburn; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Lillie M. Parr, Hanna City; Cor. Sec., Miss Ida McKibben, Hoopeston; Treas., Mrs. John Carr, Paxton. SEC.

ENTERED INTO LIFE

Mrs. Henrietta P. McCormick.

Tribute of affection from the W. M. S. of the U. P. church of Irwin, Pa.

The angel of death has again entered our ranks and taken one of our number to the "silent land." Mrs. Henrietta P. McCormick entered into rest Jan. 16, 1899. A beautiful life is ended. or rather begun, for we believe she has entered into the joy of her Lord.

We deeply mourn her loss, and extend our sincere sympathy to the bereaved husband. and sorrowing mother, brothers and sister. We pray that they may be comforted, and that heaven may seem nearer to them, because of the dear one waiting for them there. COM.

Mrs. Wm. A. McElwain.

Resolutions passed by the W. M. S. of Sewickley.

WHEREAS, By this Providence we suffer, personally and as a society, the loss of a beloved friend and most efficient helper, therefore

Resolved, 1st, That we testify to the personal worth of Mrs. McElwain, and recognize the great loss we sustain by her death. We pray that God may sanctify to us this bereavement which we all so deeply feel.

Resolved, 2nd, That in the work of this society we were ever encouraged by her cordial support and friendly counsel, and feel honored in having been associated with one so eminent for fidelity in Christian work.

Resolved, 3, That in her earnest character, genial disposition and pure life, and also her faithful performance of duty and endeavors to extend Christ's Kingdom, we have a beautiful example of the power of divine grace to save and sanctify human lives and are assured that our loss is her unspeakable gain.

Resolved, 4, That we extend to the bereaved husband and friends our truest sympathy, and pray that the gracious Presence of the Comforter may abide with them. MRS. REV. E. M. MILLIGAN,
MISS FANNIE E. WALLACE,
MRS. JOHN RICHARDSON. Com.

Mrs. Margaret Glassey.

The Woman's Missionary Society of West United Presbyterian church of Philadelphia desires to record these loving thoughts in memory of one of their number, Mrs. Margaret Glassey.

On the morning of April 27th, the summons of the Master came almost without a note of warning. While we mourn for her we are comforted by the memory of her beautiful Christian character. Her unselfish life, her interest in our society, her zeal for her Master's cause, and her sense of duty in the home and church endeared her to all who knew her.

We commend the bereaved family, who are left so lonely, to the dear Lord, whose she was and whom she served, and may her beautiful life be an inspiration to them, in this their sad hour, is our prayer. MISS MARY HOPKINS WICKES.
MRS. FRANK GETTY,
MRS. IRA D. SHAY, Com.

Mrs. Eva Mackintosh—Mrs. R. H. Corlett.

A tribute of loving respect from the W. M. S. of the First U. P. church, East Liverpool, O., to the memory of Mrs. Eva Mackintosh, who was called to her Heavenly Home March 20, 1899.

During a long period of weakness and suffering "her brow was shadowed with many a pain and furrowed with many a care," yet her cheerful, patient and Christian life endeared her to all. Though unable to attend the meetings for a few years she was always interested in the work.

Mrs. R. H. Corlett, another member, died May 1,

We would testify to the Christian characters of these dear sisters, who loved their Saviour, the house of God and his people. Therefore,

Resolved, That we cherish their memory and gratefully acknowledge God's goodness in bestowing on our departed sisters many excellencies in life, and in giving them at death an assured hope of entering into that "Home above in their Father's house amid all the glories there."

Resolved, That we extend our sincere sympathy to the sorrowing ones in the homes. reminding them of the promise that "them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

MRS. M. MCBANE,
MRS. R. SMITH,
MRS. M. STEVENSON. } COM.

Mrs. Margaret Witherspoon.

A tribute of love and respect from the Ladies' Missionary Society of Caledonia, Indiana, U. P. church on the death of Mrs. Margaret Witherspoon, which occurred April 4. 1899.

WHEREAS, Ever since our organization we have enjoyed the fellowship and counsel of Mrs. Witherspoon a most earnest and devoted worker for missions, therefore,

Resolved, That in her death we have lost a true Christian worker from our midst. By her example we are taught how to receive and endure affliction. We pray for her meek, gentle, trusting spirit, and for her faith and courage to endure.

Resolved, That we recognize in her sudden removal a reminder of the shortness and uncertainty of life, and that we, too should obey the divine injunction, "Prepare to meet thy God."

We extend our sympathy to the sorrowing ones, commending them to the Saviour whom she so faithfully followed.

Mrs. Mary Glenn.

The Women's Missionary Society of Hookstown, Pa., U. P. congregation offers the following tribute of love to the memory of Mrs. Mary Glenn.

Although not a member of our society, she was always ready and willing to help in every good work. We miss her as one always at the feet of Jesus and in the pew on Sabbath when able. We miss her as ready and willing to lend her help in every case of need. We miss her because of the Christian love with which she was so fervently imbued

We realize, however, that our loss is her great gain and complain not, but say. "Good is the will of our Lord." MRS. E. D. LEEPER,
MRS. ETTA HOOD. } COM.

Mrs. Mary Nelson—Mrs. J. M. McArthur.

The W. M. S. of the Clarinda, Iowa. congregation again mourn the loss of two beloved members—Mrs. Mary Nelson in March, and Mrs. J. M. McArthur in April.

In paying them this tribute of love we can truly say they were earnest followers of the Lamb. The Christian life and example of each is most worthy of emulation.

Both were sufferers several months before they were called to their long home, but were ready for the summons.

Mrs. McArthur was president of our society during the past year, but being hindered by bodily weakness to attend to the duties of the office, we knew her interest was in the work and her prayers followed us.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to each bereaved home, but rejoice that they mourn even as others who have no hope. MRS. IRWIN,
MRS. HARVENSON,
MISS KNOX. } COM.

"IN DUE SEASON WE SHALL REAP IF WE FAINT NOT."